Jazz

At first this was music created by black Americans in the early 20th century. Features of the music may include syncopation and improvisation.

Key features of Jazz:

- Improvisation
- solo piano, drumkit and bass
- Use of saxophone
- Syncopation
- vamp style accomp
- Use of trumpet/ trombone
- Scat singing

Improvisation

The performer makes up music during the actual performance. They don't have the melody written down to help, although there may be suggested chords as a guide. Improvisation is an important feature of jazz and popular music

Vamp

A rhythmic accompaniment with a bass note played on the beat and a chord off the beat. Usually played on piano or guitar.

- Louis Armstrong – *Hello Dolly*
- Miles Davies – *Blue Green*
- Dizzy Gillespie – *Quintet*
- *Count Basie – Jazz Casual*

Scat singing

Nonsense words, syllables and sounds are improvised (made up) by the singer. Sometimes the singer is imitating the sounds of instruments. Used mainly in jazz singing.

- Ella Fitzgerald – One note samba
- Ella Fitzgerald

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Rock

A style of popular music with a **heavy, driving beat.** It usually features **electric guitar, bass guitar and drum kit.**

Key features

- Thick and heavy drums and bass
- Strong beat
- 4/4 time
- Electric instruments – guitars and synthesisers/ electric piano
- Use of **distortion** and **reverb** effects
- Guitar riffs

Progressive Rock

- Pink Floyd– *Dark side of the moon* (1973)
- Genesis– *Trespass(1970)*

Glam Rock

- David Bowie– *Life on Mars* (1973)
- Bryan Ferry – *Virginia Plain (1972)*

Psychedelic Rock

- Rolling Stones – *Paint it black (1966)*
- The Who – *I can see for miles (1967)*

Rock guitar –effects

- **Reverb**

An electronic effect which can give the impression of different hall acoustics. For example, reverb can make a piece of music sound as if the performance is taking place in a cathedral.

- **Distortion**

An electronic effect used in rock music to colour the sound of an electric guitar – it gives it a 'grungy', 'dirty' sound

- **Pitch bend**

- *Changing the pitch of a note, for example, by pushing a guitar string upwards*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reggae

Reggae started in Jamaica and developed in the late 1960s as a mix of Calypso, Jazz and Rhythm and Blues. Songs are usually about the Rastafari religion, love or political issues such as equal rights.

Key features

- The music has a laid-back feel/ relaxed groove.
- Features off beat rhythms, staccato chords played by guitar/piano on the off beat
- Bass and drums create the rhythm, with strong accents on the 2nd and 4th beats of a bar. Bass guitar often plays a dominant role.
- It is common for reggae to be sung in Jamaican English
- Vocalists are usually male

- Bob Marley and the Wailers– *Get up, stand up*
- Bob Marley and the Wailers – One love
- Bob Marley – No woman, no cry
- Dennis Brown– *Money in my pocket*



Rap

Rhyming lyrics that are spoken and performed to a beat. It is popular in hip-hop music.

- Eminem - Without Me
- Eminem - Lose Yourself

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Gospel

Songs written with religious lyrics in a popular style. It is often in praise or thanksgiving to God. Gospel has its origins in Afro-American culture

Gospel music is characterised by hymn-like melodies, strong harmonies, and simple, repetitive lyrics. It also often features call and response, strong percussion, and a cappella vocals

- Oh happy day
- Joyful Joyful

Key features

- Religious lyrics
- Call and response singing
- Upbeat tempo
- Repetitive lyrics

Celtic Rock

A style of music that mixes Celtic folk music and rock together.



Key features

- Scottish traditional instruments (*(e.g. clarsach, tin whistle, bagpipes, fiddle)*
- Rock instruments (electric guitars/ drum kit)
- Rock beat
- Scottish dance styles – e.g. jigs, reels
- Celtic lyrics

- Highlander Celtic Rock Band - *Bung Knee Jigs*
- Red Hot Chilli Pipers - *We Will Rock You & Eye of the Tiger*

LIVEWORKSHEETS

World Music

- Latin American music

Dance music from South America. Percussion instruments provide lively off-beat dance rhythms.





Key features

- Latin percussion – *e.g. congas, castanets, maracas*
- Panpipes
- Steel band
- Spanish vocals
- Syncopation
- Cross rhythms
- Lively tempo



- Example 1
- Example 2

Steel Band

A Latin American band whose instruments are made out of oil drums called pans. The top of each drum is hammered into panels to make different pitches.

- Example 1
- Example 2





LIVEWORKSHEETS

- African Music

Much African music features voices and/or African drums.



Key features

- Bongo drums
- Call and response singing
- Polyrhythms



- Indian Music

Music from India which uses instruments such as the sitar and tabla

- Example 1
- Example 2

Key features

- Sitar
- Tabla
- Pitch bend
- Improvisation





Quiz 1

Quiz 2

LIVEWORKSHEETS